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PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS.

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JANUARY 22, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. HOOKER, from the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 3333.]

The Committee on Rivers and Harbors, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3333) to amend an act entitled "An act making appropriations for the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," passed finally June 3, 1896, submit the following report:

In the river and harbor act of June 3, 1896, provision is made for creating a board for locating a deep-water harbor on the coast of southern California, and for the expenses of the board and the pay of the civilian members \$50,000 is appropriated. It was the intention of the law to put all of the members of the board on an equal footing with regard to the expenses, but the Comptroller of the Treasury has ruled that the member chosen from the Navy can receive mileage only as a naval officer traveling under orders, and that all other expenses he must pay himself.

This act provides that the officer of the Navy detailed to serve on such board may, in common with the other members of the board, as provided for in the act of June 3, 1896, be paid such a per diem allowance for subsistence as the Secretary of War may deem proper.

The committee therefore recommend that the bill do pass.

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